

EPA does not issue CWA permits solely for the direct application of a pesticide to target a pest that is present in or over water, nor has it ever stated in any general policy or guidance that a permit is required for such applications. EPA recently issued rulemaking specifically exempting pesticide applications performed according to label instructions from CWA permitting requirements. The action would codify a 30-year-old policy.

By transferring the primacy of pesticide use from FIFRA to CWA, the 9th Circuit has authorized attorneys representing activist groups to file lawsuits to bully and intimidate farmers, mosquito abatement districts, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and others into ceasing long and widely practiced activities that have been authorized by—and already are closely overseen by—Federal and state governments.

While the EPA's rulemaking is a step in the right direction, many groups are concerned that it will not provide the necessary protection from activist lawsuits. The legislation I am introducing today would make permanent the EPA's current rulemaking related to pesticide applications and CWA permits as well as its 30-year-old rule exempting certain forestry activities. Moreover, it would provide much-needed protection from nuisance suits for groups that already are too heavily regulated.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE STOP SENIOR HUNGER ACT OF 2005

**HON. FRANK. A. LOBIONDO**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 21, 2005*

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise here today in support of the "Stop Senior Hunger Act of 2005." This important piece of legislation reauthorizes vital senior nutrition programs. These programs help these men and women in cities, suburbs and rural communities across America who are elderly, homebound, disabled, frail or at risk. They help those with long-term illnesses and those who may just need a little short-term assistance after a hospital stay or during a time of need. In the words of the Meals-on-Wheels Association of America, the oldest and largest national organization representing senior meal programs in the United States, these programs are needed "so no senior goes hungry."

The "Stop Senior Hunger Act of 2005" reauthorizes through 2010 both congregate and home delivered nutrition services—those meals provided at local senior centers and those meals delivered to homebound seniors. It also reauthorizes the Nutrition Services Incentive program which provides additional funds to states based on each state's share of the total meals served by Meals on Wheels and other senior nutrition programs in all states the prior year.

The average beneficiary may be very familiar to you—she may be your mother, your grandmother or your next door neighbor. She is an elderly woman in her very late seventies or early eighties and is more than twice as likely as her contemporaries to live alone, apart from family and friends. She is likely to have trouble with walking or climbing stairs and have a number of diagnosed chronic health conditions. In addition, she probably

has an income below \$18,000. Whatever the reason, she cannot shop, cook, or prepare meals for herself. She relies on Meals on Wheels and other senior nutrition programs to ensure she gets proper nutrition.

The demand for the services Meals on Wheels and other senior nutrition programs provide will continue to increase at an astounding pace. As many of you know, the over 65 population in the United States is growing and is projected to increase dramatically. In fact, those individuals age 85 or older, is the fastest growing segment of the entire United States population.

Meals on Wheels and other senior nutrition programs are also an excellent use of our increasingly scarce federal dollars. They save federal Medicare, Medicaid, and veterans' health care costs since malnourished patients stay in a hospital nearly twice as long as well nourished seniors. In addition, for every federal dollar spent as part of these programs as much as three dollars are leveraged from other funding sources, including state, local and private funds and participant contributions toward the cost of meals.

I was proud to participate in the Meals on Wheels Association of America's "March for Meals" last month. I joined volunteers from Meals on Wheels of Salem County, New Jersey in delivering meals and witnessed first hand both the need for these important programs and the incredible dedication of their staff and volunteers. I encourage each of you to get involved with your local programs—whether you help prepare meals, deliver meals, or just join local seniors in enjoying their meals—your support can make a difference.

For all of these reasons, I urge my colleagues in the House to support the "Stop Senior Hunger Act of 2005."

#### HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF FRIO COUNTY COMMISSIONER JOSE "PEPE" FLORES

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 21, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the many accomplishments of Frio Precinct Four County Commissioner Jose "Pepe" Flores.

Mr. Flores has a strong and varied background in public service. He graduated from Dilley High School, and from Sul Ross University in 1970 with a Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry. He subsequently received his certification as a Medical Technician.

He has worked as a drug abuse counselor, a college teacher at the University of Texas, and a Halliburton Oilfield Engineer, among other professions. He has also been part of several important community organizations, including the Tax Appraisal District, the Rio Grande Water District, and the Dilley Independent School District School Board.

Mr. Flores now serves the public as County Commissioner for Frio County. He owns and operates a ranch in South Texas, and is married to Jennifer Flores, with whom he has two children.

Mr. Flores has distinguished himself as an energetic, hardworking, and versatile businessman and public servant.

The city of Dilley and the people of Frio County have benefited greatly from the work he has done, and I am proud to have the chance to thank him here today.

#### HONORING LAIRD & COMPANY

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 21, 2005*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Laird & Company on its 225th Anniversary as a family, owned and operated New Jersey business located in Scobeyville, New Jersey. Laird & Company is the oldest licensed distiller in the United States and is most well known for its famous Applejack.

The history of Laird & Company is very rich. The company can trace its origin back to 1698 when William Laird moved to Monmouth County, New Jersey from Scotland and began making Scotch by using one of the most abundant resources in the area, apples. He made this brandy for his own family, friends and neighbors.

During the Revolutionary War, Robert Laird served under George Washington and during the Battle of Monmouth, the Laird family would supply the troops with Applejack. Washington enjoyed Applejack and personally requested the recipe to produce his own. To this day, Washington is the only non-Laird family member to know the secret Laird's Applejack recipe.

During Prohibition, the company was able to survive by selling sweet cider and applesauce. Since the Prohibition, Laird & Company has produced roughly 95 percent of all Applejack apple brandy sold in the United States. Laird & Company halted their production of Applejack during World War II to aid in the war effort by converting their plant to dry and dehydrate apple pomace for pectin and other products.

Laird & Company was recognized by the New Jersey State Senate in 1964 as the "oldest native distilled spirit beverage in the United States." The plant in Scobeyville, New Jersey is the oldest operating distillery in the country and it produces close to 1.5 million cases of distilled spirits annually.

I rise today to commend Laird & Company in its 225th year as a family owned and operated business with a deep history. I applaud the service that Laird & Company has made to the individuals and communities of Central New Jersey and the country.

#### TRIBUTE TO LAWRENCE DUNHAM

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 21, 2005*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor an outstanding State Department professional, Lawrence Dunham, as he retires after three decades of dedicated government service.

Mr. Dunham served as Assistant Chief of Protocol for Diplomatic Affairs at the State Department and also assumed the position of Acting Chief of Protocol when he was designated to manage the transition from the Clinton to the Bush administration. He is well-respected by Members of Congress from both